

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 03408 140403Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /078 W  
-----141317Z 123492 /44

R 131328Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6145  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USINT BAGHDAD  
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3408

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: IS, PLO, XF, PDEV, PFOR  
SUBJECT: ANOTHER LOOK AT ARAB AID FOR OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

REF: TEL AVIV 2843 (NOTAL)

1. MFA REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORIES (GONEN) ON MAY 12 ELABORATED SOMEWHAT FOR EMBOFF ON THE GOI ATTITUDE TOWARD OUTSIDE ARAB FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES (REFTEL). IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, GONEN CONFIRMED THAT EACH OF THE MUNICIPAL DELEGATIONS MAKING TOURS TO ARAB COUNTRIES HAD FIRST AGREED WITH THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES ON A LIST OF MUNICIPAL PROJECTS FOR ARAB FUNDING. GONEN ALSO SAID THAT THE GOI IS TAKING A PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO THE LATEST ARAB AID DEVELOPMENT. IT  
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WILL TAKE A PERIOD OF SOME MONTHS, HE SAID, TO SEE WHETHER THE ARABS ATTEMPT TO CONNECT THEIR MONEY WITH POLITICS IN THE TERRITORIES AND WHETEHR SOME MUNICIPALITIES ARE FAVORED AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS.

2. COMMENT: GONEN'S EARLIER ANTICIPATION (REFTEL) THAT THE MAYORS WOULD RECEIVE "PROMISES, NOT MONEY"

TAKES ON ADDED MEANING WHEN VIEWED AGAINST THIS PROCESS OF MUNICIPALITIES AND THE ISRAELIS CONSULTING AND COMING UP WITH A LIST OF PROJECTS. THE ISRAELIS CLEARLY SEE THE "PROMISED" ARAB AID PROGRAM AS A TESTING GROUND OF ARAB GOVERNMENTS' SUPPORT FOR THE PLO. IF, CONTRARY TO ISRAELI EXPECTATIONS, ARABS ARE WILLING TO FUND PROJECTS WHICH THE ISRAELI CONSIDER AT BEST POLITICALLY NEUTRAL, WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO WEIGHT THEIR ASSISTANCE TOWARDS "UNACCEPTABLE" MATTERS (BY GOI CRITERIA), THE ISRAELI WILL LOOK ON THIS AS A VERY FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY WILL DO THEIR BEST TO PREVENT AID FROM GOING IN UN-ACCEPTABLE DIRECTIONS--THUS, PRESS STORIES TODAY THAT DELEGATIONS FROM NABLUS AND RAMALLAH HAVE "TEMPORARILY" BEEN PREVENTED BY THE ISRAELIS FROM MAKING FUND-RAISING TRIPS. (THEY COULD NOT AGREE ON PROJECTS, WE SUPPOSE.)

3. GONEN EARLIER HAD CITED TWO PRINCIPLES AS GOVERNING GOI REACTION TO OUTSIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE TERRITORIES: WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM, AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR. WE CAN NOW ADD A THIRD ONE: WHO GETS THE CREDIT. IN BROAD TERMS, IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE ISRAELI AND ARABS WILL NOT IN THE MONTHS AHEAD FIND THEMSELVES WORKING AT CROSS PURPOSES REGARDING AID TO THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OR THAT THE PLO WOULD PERMIT ITSELF TO BE FROZEN OUT OF THIS PROGRAM.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 TEL AVIV 2843  
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**Subject:** ANOTHER LOOK AT ARAB AID FOR OCCUPIED TERRITORIES  
**TAGS:** PDEV, PFOR, EAID, IS, XF, PLO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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